



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 617-292-5500

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Lieutenant Governor

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Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr.
Commissioner

August 11, 2005

William Beckwith
Water Quality Standards Coordinator
United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 1
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023

Re: DEP Issuance of Extensions of WQS Variances for CSO Discharges by MWRA and Cities of Somerville and Cambridge to Alewife Brook/Upper Mystic River Basin and for CSO discharges by MWRA, the City of Cambridge and Boston Water & Sewer Commission to Lower Charles River Basin

Dear Mr. Beckwith:

I have reviewed the Department's Extensions of Water Quality Standards Variances for CSO Discharges by MWRA and the cities of Somerville and Cambridge to Alewife Brook/Upper Mystic River Basin and for CSO discharges by MWRA, the City of Cambridge and Boston Water & Sewer Commission to the Lower Charles River Basin, dated September 1, 2004, and October 1, 2004, respectively. I certify that the Department has issued these Extensions of Variances pursuant to the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards, 314 CMR 4.03(4), and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, M.G.L. c.21, §§ 26 through 53, and in accordance with applicable procedures. The Department approved the CSO discharges at issue pursuant to the long term control planning /facilities planning process.

The Department published public notice of its Tentative Determination to issue the Extension of Variance for CSO Discharges by MWRA and the Cities of Somerville and Cambridge to Alewife Brook/Upper Mystic River Basin in *The Boston Globe* of July 23, 2004. The Department held a public hearing, at the Department's Boston office, on August 25, 2004. Following comment review on September 1, 2004, the Department issued the Extension of Variance.

The Department published public notice of its Tentative Determination to issue the Variance for CSO Discharges by MWRA, the City of Cambridge and Boston Water & Sewer Commission to

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057. TDD Services - 1-800-298-2207.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>

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Lower Charles River Basin in *The Boston Globe* of August 27, 2004. The Department held a public hearing, at the Department's Boston office, on September 27, 2004. Following comment review on October 1, 2004, the Department issued the Extension of Variance.

Should you have any questions in connection with this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Richard Lehan, Deputy General Counsel, at 617/556-1007.

Sincerely,



Bennet Heart
Acting General Counsel